



MINUTES

Carbondale Planning Commission
Wednesday, November 15th 2023
Room 108, 6:00 p.m.
City Hall/Civic Center

Ms. Litecky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Litecky, Sheffer, Love, Lilly, Carrier, Allee, Shukites, Doherty (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Weiss

Staff Present: Lenzini, Maxwell, Sorrell

1. Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Litecky asked for a motion to approve the August 2nd, 2023 minutes. Mr. Sheffer moved to approve the minutes of August 2nd, 2023, seconded by Mr. Carrier. There was a unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes.

2. Citizen Comments or Questions

There were none.

3. Report of Officers, Committees, Communications

There were none.

4. Public Hearings

There were none.

5. Old Business

There was none.

6. New Business

- a. Gain information on required Open Meetings Act training –
Carbondale City Clerk, Ms. Sorrell, gave an overview of the information included in

the Open Meetings Act as it pertains to the Planning Commission.

Ms. Sorrell stated that the Commissioners are all required to complete Open Meetings Act training at least once.

Ms. Sorrell asked the Commissioners if they had any questions about the Open Meeting Act information provided, the Commissioners had no questions.

Ms. Maxwell asked if training was transferable if the Commissioners had previously taken it for another board. Ms. Sorrell confirmed that the Commissioners could forward a copy of their completed training to the City Clerk's office and it would be kept on file.

b. Vote on a recommendation to the City Council for the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) –

Ms. Maxwell provided an overview of the Capital Improvements Program.

Ms. Maxwell asked the Commissioners if they had any questions about the Community Improvement Program, the Commissioners had none.

Ms. Maxwell read through the list of proposals submitted by the Commissioners.

Mr. Doherty provided details and gave insight into the City Council's side of the CIP process. Ms. Litecky asked if the Commissioners had any questions for Mr. Doherty.

Mr. Sheffer asked for clarification on what a corridor study includes. Mr. Shukites, who proposed the corridor studies, explained the process behind a corridor study.

Mr. Carrier voiced his support for corridor studies. Mr. Carrier asked if there was a way to broaden the corridor studies to traffic in Carbondale as a whole rather than on individual streets.

Mr. Shukites voiced his support for a bypass around Carbondale due to potential increases in traffic in the coming years. Mr. Shukites voiced that he would like the City to hold jurisdiction over roads such as Route 13 and South Illinois Avenue (Route 51) that IDOT currently holds jurisdiction over.

Mr. Doherty stated that there were previous discussions between the City and IDOT about a northern bypass route around Carbondale. Mr. Doherty stated that the project ran into environmental issues because due to the proposed route running along the North of Carbondale, the Koppers Site was unavoidable. The project also ran into floodplain issues. Mr. Doherty also explained that because Route 13 and South Illinois Ave (Route 51) are state routes, there is no way for the City to assume jurisdiction without replacing the state routes, which he sees is unlikely.

Ms. Litecky asked if the Commissioners had further questions. There were none.

Ms. Litecky asked if the Commissioners would like to vote to recommend all of the CIP proposals or if they would like to remove some of the proposals before making a recommendation. Mr. Sheffer suggested that there be a discussion on any of the CIP proposals that the Commissioners are opposed to, remove them from the proposal list, and then make a motion to recommend the remaining proposals. Ms. Litecky agreed. The Commissioners thoroughly discussed how to prioritize projects and which projects to include and exclude from their recommendation.

Ms. Litecky asked for a motion.

Mr. Sheffer made a motion to recommend a City-wide Transportation Study, including neighborhood improvements such as sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, and to recommend the remaining items listed in the CIP proposals. Mr. Carrier seconded the

motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes – 6 (Shukites, Carrier, Love, Sheffer, Allee, Litecky)

No – 0

Abstain – 1 (Lilly)

- c. Discuss the upcoming 2025 Comprehensive Plan update –
Ms. Maxwell gave an update on the progress of the 2025 Comprehensive Plan as it pertains to the Planning Commission. Ms. Maxwell stated that the City is in the process of identifying a consultant to help with the process. Ms. Maxwell stated that the Commissioners would be able to make recommendations and have input on the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Maxwell stated there would be a focus on public engagement.
- d. City Council Update – Mr. Doherty gave an update on recent City Council meetings pertaining to Planning Commission.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Allee moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Carrier.